

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7920

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAMM

UNCLAS DAKAR 0390

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,SZ, SG, RH

SUBJECT: SENGHOR REPEATS CALL FOR RHODESIAN BLACK UNITY AND
CRITICIZES FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS' ENDORSEMENT OF PATRIOTIC
FRONT

REF A DAKAR 253, B BERN 199, C DAKAR 375

1. ON JANUARY 17 RADIO SENEGAL BORADCAST PORTIONS
OF REMARKS TO PRESS BY PRESIDENT SENGHOR FOLLOWING HIS
TALKS WITH SWISS LEADERS WHICH CORRESPONDED TO SOME OF
COMMMENTS SUMMARIZED REFTEL B.

2. SENHOR WAS ASKED BY JOURNALIST IF HE WAS PESSIMISTIC
OVER RHODESIA SITUATION AT MOMENT WHEN ANGLO-AMERICAN
INITIATIVE APPEARED "IMMOBILIZED." SENGHOR REPLIED,
"I AM NOT PESSIMISTIC BECAUSE, IN ITS PRINCIPLE, THE
QUESTION IS VIRTUALLY RESOLVED. THANKS TO THE PRESSURE
OF MR. HENRY KISSINGER, IAN SMITH, HEAD OF THE RHODESIAN
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GOVERNMENT, ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY GOVERNMENT.
THE DIFFICULTY RESIDES IN THE DISACCORD OF THE BLACK
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. I THEREFORE THINK THAT THE BALL
HAS BEEN THROWN BACK INTO THE BLACK COURT. IT IS UP TO THE
BLACKS TO SILENCE THEIR QUARRELS AND TO RETAIN ONLY WHAT
CAN UNIFY THEM: THAT IS TO SAY MAJORITY GOVERNMENT. IT
STILL IS NECESSARY THAT THERE BE A GOVERNMENT OF THE TRUE

MAJORITY. I FEAR THAT THEY WANT TO PUT A MINORITY IN
POWER THERE AS THEY DID IN ANGOLA."

3.ASKED IF HE THEREFORE REGRETTED THE DECISION OF FRONT
LINE PRESIDENTS TO ENDORSE ONE OF CONTESTING MOVEMENTS IN
RHODESIA, SENGHOR RESPONDED, "I SIMPLY THINK THAT IT IS
NOT A WISE SOLUTION. I THINK IT IS NECESSARY FIRST TO
PUT THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN ACCORD AND ORGANIZE
DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS."

4. COMMENT: REMARKS REITERATE SENHOR'S CONSISTENT
POSITION THAT IT IS UP TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO RECONCILE
THEIR DIFFERENCES IF THERE IS TO BE FURTHER PROGRESS
TOWARD RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. THIS ALSO PARALLELS HIS
VIEW OF ANGOLA, WHERE SENGHOR CONTINUES TO CALL FOR
RECONCILIATION BETWEEN COMPETING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.
AGGREY

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